

Comments/Questions Received During the Preproposal Conference

Question – Why was the fee pool reduced? Contractors expected to see it increased to attract a larger number of Offerors for a broader competition.

Answer – The Department believes that \$26.5 M is adequate to attract competition. The fee was reduced because Home Office Expenses no longer must be absorbed by the fee. The SEB believes this combination potentially provides greater reimbursement to all prospective Offerors.

Question – Why were Relevant Experience and Past Performance reduced to three years? Accomplishments in scientific discovery and in management of complex contracts often require more than three years to achieve.

Answer – The change from five years to three years for evaluation of Past Performance is the result of recent guidance from the Department on “Best Practices” and refers only to performance on contracts, including contracts for science and technology. The Government system does not retain information on Past Performance for more than three years. Based on this change, the SEB decided to limit Relevant Experience for business and operations to three years.

Relevant Experience in science and technology as requested in L.2.(a) is not limited to three years.

Question – Please provide the SEB’s definitions of the terms “strategy,” “approach,” and “plan.”

Answer – Strategy: the high-level overview
– “what you intend to achieve”

Approach or Plan: tactics for implementing the strategy
– “how you intend to get it done”

The RFP will be amended to reflect these definitions.

Question – What file format is desired on CDs to be submitted with each volume?

Answer – PDF, Word, or WordPerfect are acceptable and the RFP will be amended to reflect this.

Question – When you post the attendees list, please post contact information, i.e., company name, point of contact telephone number, e-mail, etc.

Answer – All relevant information that was provided at registration will be posted with the attendees list. To ensure your contact information is as detailed as you prefer, please visit Michelle Galbert at the registration desk upon the conclusion of this session. Providing her with a business card will suffice.